

Appln. No. 10,616,834
Amdt. date March 12, 2004
Reply to Office action of December 12, 2003

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office action dated December 12, 2003 has been reviewed and the comments therein carefully considered. It is noted that the drawings submitted with the application are acceptable.

In the Office action, various questions and issues are raised in connection with the description of the new variety. By the accompanying amendment, Applicant has made a *bona fide* attempt to respond to each of these questions and issues.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, it is respectfully submitted the application is now in condition for allowance and, accordingly, reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited.

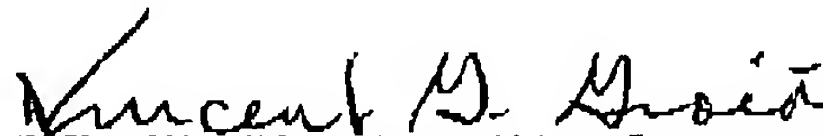
If any questions remain regarding the allowability of the application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Although Applicant believes that no fee is due at this time, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required by this paper to Deposit Account No. 03-1728. Please show our docket number with any charge or credit to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP

By



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